

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BONN 08686 181855 Z

51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NIC-01 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 CU-04 AEC-11 EB-11

SCI-06 CEQ-02 EPA-04 RSR-01 /163 W

----- 119800

R 181847 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5768

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS BONN 08686

E. O. 11652; N/ A

TAGS: MCAP, GW, PARM

SUBJECT: DEFENSE MINISTER' S SPEECH ON MBFR/ CSCE AND  
EAST/ WEST BALANCE OF FORCES.

SUMMARY: TODAY' S FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE REPORTS ON  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BONN 08686 181855 Z

JUNE 17 SPEECH GIVEN BY DEFENSE MINISTER LEBER, FOLLOWING COPENHAGEN NATO MINISTERIAL, TO INFORMATION MEETING OF SPD BUNDESTAG FAKTION IN KIEL. ACCORDING TO JUNE 18 FAZ REPORT, LEBER'S SPEECH TREATED MBFR, MILITARY ASPECTS OF CSCE AND EAST/ WEST CONVENTIONAL FORCE BALANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. ON MBFR, LEBER REPORTEDLY EMPHASIZED THAT " STATIONED AS WELL AS INDIGENOUS FORCES MUST BE INCLUDED" IN MBFR REDUCTIONS AS WELL AS IN THE PLANNED NEGOTIATIONS. FAZ REPORTS THAT LEBER OPPOSED THE CONCEPT THAT ONLY STATIONED FORCES COULD BE REDUCED IN MBFR.

2. ON CSCE, FAZ SAYS LEBER ARGUED THAT " CONCRETE ASPECTS OF MILITARY SECURITY MUST BE TREATED BECAUSE PROGRESS IN THE ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL COOPERATION AND ATMOSPHERIC IMPROVEMENTS ALONE WOULD PERMIT A FALSE FEELING OF SECURITY TO DEVELOP". THIS EFFECT COULD IN LEBER'S VIEW CAUSE A DISTURBANCE TO THE POWER BALANCE IN EUROPE, PARTICULARLY GIVEN THE GROWING MILITARY POTENTIAL OF THE WARSAW PACT, ESPECIALLY THE USSR.

3. WITH THE WASHPOST ARTICLE AND US DPC STATEMENT CLEARLY IN MIND, LEBER NOTED THE SOVIET CONVENTIONAL FORCE SUPERIORITY IN CENTRAL EUROPE. HE SAID THE WARSAW PACT HAD 59 DIVISIONS WITH OVER 860 THOUSAND MEN AND AROUND 20 THOUSAND BATTLE TANKS IN THE GDR, POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA ALONE; HE ADDED THAT THERE WERE AN ADDITIONAL THIRTY DIVISIONS WITH EIGHT THOUSAND TANKS IN THE WESTERN REGIONS OF THE SOVIET UNION. AGAINST THESE FORCES, LEBER REPORTEDLY SAID THE WEST HAD 28 DIVISIONS WITH ABOUT 725 THOUSAND SOLDIERS AND 6,600 BATTLE TANKS BATTLE READY; BUT THESE FORCES WERE WITHOUT DIRECTLY AVAILABLE RESERVES.

4. GIVEN THIS SITUATION, CONCLUDED LEBER, US NUCLEAR AS WELL AS CONVENTIONAL ENGAGEMENT TO WEST EUROPE REMAINS INDISPENSABLE.

HILLENBRAND  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BONN 08686 181855 Z

UNCLASSIFIED

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 JUN 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973BONN08686  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BONN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730621/aaaajcom.tel  
**Line Count:** 114  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kellerpr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24-Aug-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <27-Aug-2001 by kellerpr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980209; srp 980209  
**Subject:** DEFENSE MINISTER' S SPEECH ON MBFR/ CSCE AND EAST/ WEST BALANCE OF FORCES.  
**TAGS:** MCAP, PARM, GW  
**To:** EUR  
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO ANKARA  
ATHENS  
BRUSSELS  
MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

